

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 1 (Canceled).

Claim 2 (Previously Presented): A belt comprising:

an arrangement that is attached to a portion of the belt, wherein
the belt has a Young's modulus and the arrangement has a Young's modulus that is
smaller than the Young's modulus of the belt, and
the arrangement is a protection seal that protects an edge of the belt from wearing,
said protection seal having a Young's modulus in the range of 300 megapascals to 800
megapascals.

Claim 3 (Canceled).

Claim 4 (Canceled).

Claim 5 (Canceled).

Claim 6 (Previously Presented): A belt comprising:

an arrangement that is attached to a portion of the belt, wherein
the belt has a Young's modulus and the arrangement has a Young's modulus that is
smaller than the Young's modulus of the belt, and
the Young's modulus of the belt satisfies a relation:

$$T/ExLx\alpha \leq 0.03 \text{ [millimeter]}$$

where, T is a tension applied to the belt in [N/mm²], E is the Young's modulus of the belt in

[megapascals], L is a maximum image length in [millimeter], and α is a percentage fluctuation in the Young's modulus.

Claim 7 (Canceled).

Claim 8 (Previously Presented): A belt comprising:
an arrangement that is attached to a portion of the belt, wherein
the belt has a Young's modulus and the arrangement has a Young's modulus that is smaller than the Young's modulus of the belt, and
the arrangement is a stopper, which prevents the belt from biasing toward an edge side at the time of being driven, wherein
the stopper has a Young's modulus in a range of 2 megapascals to 10 megapascals,
and
the Young's modulus of the belt is in a range of 3000 megapascals to 7000 megapascals.

Claim 9 (Canceled).

Claim 10 (Previously Presented): An image forming apparatus comprising:
means for forming an image;
means for driving a rotating belt for conveying a medium on which an image is directly transferred, the rotating belt having a Young's modulus; and
an arrangement that is attached to a portion along the rotating belt, the arrangement having a Young's modulus that is smaller than the Young's modulus of the rotating belt,
wherein the arrangement is a protection seal that protects an edge of the rotating belt

from wearing, said protection seal having a Young's modulus in the range of 300 megapascals to 800 megapascals.

Claim 11 (Canceled).

Claim 12 (Canceled).

Claim 13 (Canceled)

Claim 14 (Previously Presented): An image forming apparatus comprising:
means for forming an image;
means for driving a rotating belt for conveying a medium on which an image is directly transferred, the rotating belt having a Young's modulus; and
an arrangement that is attached to a portion-along the rotating belt, the arrangement having a Young's modulus that is smaller than the Young's modulus of the rotating belt,
wherein the Young's modulus of the rotating belt satisfies a relation:

$$T/ExLx\alpha \leq 0.03 \text{ [millimeter]}$$

where, T is a tension applied to the rotating belt in [N/mm²], E is the Young's modulus of the rotating belt in [megapascals], L is a maximum image length in [millimeter], and α is a percentage fluctuation in the Young's modulus.

Claim 15 (Canceled).

Claim 16 (Previously Presented): An image forming apparatus comprising:
means for forming an image;

means for driving a rotating belt for conveying a medium on which an image is directly transferred, the rotating belt having a Young's modulus; and

an arrangement that is attached to a portion-along the rotating belt, the arrangement having a Young's modulus that is smaller than the Young's modulus of the rotating belt,

wherein the arrangement is a stopper, which prevents the rotating belt from biasing toward an edge side at the time of being driven,

the stopper has a Young's modulus in a range of 2 megapascals to 10 megapascals,

and

the Young's modulus of the belt is in a range of 3000 megapascals to 7000 megapascals.